

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

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- 1.** An electronic apparatus, comprising:
a housing that a person can carry; and
a circuit coupled to the housing that causes a device to operate according
to a predetermined user profile of the person, the device being remote from the
housing and circuit.
 - 2.** The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein the circuit provides the
user profile to the device.
 - 3.** The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein the circuit causes the
device to operate according to the user profile when the person is within a
predetermined distance from the device.
 - 4.** The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein the circuit
communicates with the device via a wireless channel.
 - 5.** The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein the circuit
communicates with the device via a cable.
 - 6.** The electronic apparatus of claim 1 wherein the circuit comprises:
a processor;
a memory coupled to the processor and stores the user profile; and
a transmitter coupled to the processor.

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7. A device, comprising a circuit that:
stores a predetermined user profile of a person;
detects a remote electronic apparatus associated with the person; and
causes the device to operate according to the user profile in response to
detecting the electronic apparatus.

8. The device of claim 7 wherein the circuit receives the user profile
from the electronic apparatus.

9. The device of claim 7 wherein the circuit to detects the electronic
apparatus when the electronic apparatus is within a predetermined distance from
the device.

10. The device of claim 7 wherein the circuit comprises:
a memory that stores the user profile; and
a processor coupled to the memory that causes the device to operate
according to the user profile.

11. The device of claim 7 wherein the circuit detects the electronic
apparatus via a wireless channel.

12. The device of claim 7 wherein the circuit detects the electronic
apparatus via a cable.

13. A base unit, comprising a circuit that:
stores a predetermined user profile of a person;
detects a remote electronic apparatus associated with the person; and
causes a satellite device to operate according to the user profile in
response to detecting the electronic apparatus.

14. The base unit of claim 13 wherein the circuit receives the user profile from the electronic apparatus.
15. The base unit of claim 13 wherein the circuit detects the electronic apparatus when the electronic apparatus is within a predetermined distance from the base unit.
16. The base unit of claim 13 wherein the circuit comprises:
a memory that stores the user profile; and
a processor coupled to the memory that causes the satellite device to operate according to the user profile.
17. The base unit of claim 13 wherein the circuit communicates with the electronic apparatus and the satellite device via respective wireless channels.
18. The base unit of claim 13 wherein the circuit communicates with the electronic apparatus and the satellite device via respective cables.
19. The base unit of claim 13 wherein the circuit:
communicates with the electronic apparatus via a wireless channel; and
communicates with the satellite device via a cable.
20. A system, comprising:
a first electronic apparatus operable to be carried by a first person; and
a device that when remote from the electronic apparatus is operable to,
store a first predetermined user profile of the first person,
detect the first electronic apparatus, and

operate according to the first user profile in response to detecting the first electronic apparatus.

21. The system of claim 20 wherein the first electronic apparatus is operable to:

store the first user profile; and provide the stored first user profile to the device.

22. The system of claim 20 wherein the device is operable to detect the first electronic apparatus when the device is within a predetermined distance from the first electronic apparatus.

23. The system of claim 20, further comprising:
a second electronic apparatus operable to be carried by a second person;
and
wherein the device when remote from the second electronic apparatus is
operable to,

store a second predetermined user profile of the second person,
detect the second electronic apparatus,
operate according to the first user profile in response to detecting
only the first electronic apparatus,
operate according to the second user profile in response to
detecting only the second electronic apparatus, and
in response to simultaneously detecting the first and second
electronic apparatus, determine respective priorities of the first and second
persons and operating according to the user profile of the person having
the higher priority.

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24. The system of claim 20, further comprising:
and
a second electronic apparatus operable to be carried by a second person;
wherein the device when remote from the second electronic apparatus is
operable to,
store a second predetermined user profile of the second person,
detect the second electronic apparatus,
operate according to the first user profile in response to detecting
only the first electronic apparatus,
operate according to the second user profile in response to
detecting only the second electronic apparatus, and
in response to simultaneously detecting the first and second
electronic apparatus, operating according to the user profile associated
with the electronic apparatus closest to the device.
25. The system of claim 20 wherein the first electronic apparatus
comprises a laptop computer.
26. The system of claim 20 wherein the first electronic apparatus
comprises a personal digital assistant.
27. The system of claim 20 wherein the device comprises an appliance.
28. The system of claim 20 wherein the device comprises a vending
machine.
29. The system of claim 20 wherein the device comprises a seat that is
operable to configure itself according to the user profile in response to detecting
the first electronic apparatus.

30. A system, comprising:

- an electronic apparatus operable to be carried by a person;
- a satellite device that is operable to be remote from the electronic apparatus; and
- a base unit coupled to the satellite device and that when remote from the electronic apparatus is operable to,
 - store a predetermined user profile of the person,
 - detect the electronic apparatus, and
 - cause the satellite device to operate according to the user profile in response to detecting the electronic apparatus.

31. The system of claim 30 wherein the electronic apparatus is operable to:

store the first user profile; and
provide the stored first user profile to the base unit.

32. The system of claim 30 wherein the base unit is operable to detect the electronic apparatus when the base unit is within a predetermined distance from the electronic apparatus.

33. The system of claim 20 wherein the base unit comprises a personal computer.

34. A method, comprising:
sensing a person associated with a user profile; and
configuring a device according to the user profile in response to sensing
the person.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising:
the person carrying an electronic apparatus; and
wherein configuring the device comprises configuring the device with the
electronic apparatus.
36. The method of claim 34, further comprising:
connecting an electronic apparatus to the device; and
wherein configuring the device comprises configuring the device with the
connected electronic apparatus.
37. The method of claim 34 wherein sensing the person comprises
sensing the person when the person is within a predetermined distance from the
device.
38. The method of claim 34, further comprising:
the person carrying an electronic apparatus; and
wherein sensing the person comprises sensing the electronic apparatus.
39. The method of claim 34 wherein:
sensing the person comprises sensing the person with a base unit; and
configuring the device comprises configuring the device with the base unit.
40. The method of claim 34 wherein:
sensing the person comprises sensing the person with the device; and
configuring the device comprises causing the device to configure itself.

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